

F: CABELL, GEN. C. P.

X: EDSON, PETE
2 September 1959

X: LAWRENCE, WM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. Pete Edson of NEA, as chairman of the committee within the National Press Club handling the distinguished guest list, told me yesterday that my request through Bill Lawrence, the President of the Club, that you be invited, had been approved and an invitation would be sent to you.
3. Pete said that you will be seated at the elevated head table with Khrushchev and the other guests, or at one of the small tables seating the active press, whichever you prefer. The head table is a long one, on a platform, running the length of the room. It is customary to introduce the guests by calling out each name and at such time the guests rise for a moment, then are seated again. You will be introduced or not as you desire. For the speaker-- Mr. K--there will be a small cocktail (they serve cokes, too) session in a private room down the hall from the ballroom, where the distinguished guests will be introduced to Mr. K. You may or may not attend and personally meet Mr. K as you desire.
4. In connection with where you sit: There are 1,000 active members of the Press Club and only 250 will be present because K is bringing 39 Soviet pressmen, the State Department has insisted that the US pressmen who will cover K across the country also attend, and the Soviet Embassy has insisted that the American Women's Press Clubs and the Overseas Writers also be represented. The capacity of the Club is 490. If you sit at the guest table that is the normal procedure and is the expected thing. If you sit at an active members table you add a "cloak and dagger" touch--and you keep out one active member. If you sit at the head table and are not introduced, again a "cloak and dagger" element is in my

opinion unnecessarily introduced. If you want to meet K--and I think you should-- you would attend the cocktail party; there will be little chance of talk, and you'll be "General Cabell." It's a normal procedure.

5. I believe that the Deputy DCI, as a covert top official of CIA, should appear as The Deputy DCI, meet K at the private cocktail party, sit at the head table, be introduced as General Cabell, The Deputy Director of CIA. This is an open meeting, to be covered on TV by NBC and CBS and there is no secrecy and there is every reason why CIA should be represented.

STANLEY J. GROGAN
Assistant to the Director